



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

9.—*A Half-Century with Juvenile Delinquents; or, the New York House of Refuge and its Times.* By B. K. PEIRCE, D. D., Chaplain of the House of Refuge. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1869.

DR. PEIRCE is a kindly and eloquent preacher of the Methodist Church, who, after acting for some years as head of the State Industrial School for Girls at Lancaster in Massachusetts, became chaplain of the great reformatory of the city of New York, of which he has now written the history. It is the largest establishment of its class in the country, which is as much as to say, in the world; for, in reality, the American reformatories supported by cities and States make a distinct class among institutions of this kind. They are not prisons; yet they receive all their inmates by sentence from some court or magistrate, and they are a part of the recognized penal system of the community in which they are established. They are supported wholly or mainly by public funds, and are managed in part by public officers; yet they are generally private corporations in their form of organization, and have as yet been kept clear of the political influences which have corrupted the management of many of our prisons. This is true even in New York, where political corruption has reached its highest development; and nothing is more striking in the history of this House of Refuge, as Dr. Peirce relates it, than the high character and excellent motives of its managers from first to last. Among its founders, fifty years ago, were Dr. John Griscom, Rev. Dr. Stanford, Joseph Curtis, and James W. Gerard, and the line of succession has been kept up by good men ever since.

There is no danger, in a book such as this, that these men and their coadjutors will not receive praise enough; but there is some risk that their faults and errors of judgment may not be so clearly seen as their wise measures and the general good result of them. There is little in Dr. Peirce's book to indicate that the New York House of Refuge has any faults at all: praise is bestowed without stint; the bright side of the enterprise is the only one much considered, and the reader may easily be led to suppose that there is no other. This is natural, and, in one sense, it is commendable; for, beyond doubt, the general drift of all such enterprises is for good, and even for inestimable good. But, on the other hand, a mistake or a false principle inwrought in the structure of a benevolent establishment does all the more harm the older and stronger it grows. Such a mistake we believe the system of congregation, as practised at Randall's Island, to be; and all the piety, benevolence, wisdom, and vigilance of the men and women in authority there cannot prevent it from having hurtful results,—at any rate,

when compared with the working of a more natural system. If the managers had long ago resolved that they would never have more than two hundred children in one establishment, nor half so many when they could help it; and if they had early begun to throw off colonies and swarms from their great hive, placing them in country scenes, and where the children could readily have found homes in the families of well-to-do farmers, mechanics, clergymen, schoolmasters, and other good people,—the blessing upon their labors would be now, we believe, much greater than it is. The evil which they seek to cure springs in great part from the crowding of people in cities: the remedy for it must be sought in rustication, as far as possible; and it is possible to secure the remedy in much larger measure in a half-dozen colonies of young delinquents in the country than in one great receptacle in the city of New York. Would Dewetz ever have built his Mettroy in a suburb of Paris?

Yet we find this volume one of great interest and value. It aims at being a history, not only of the establishment to which it relates, but of the whole modern movement for the reformation of young delinquents, upon which it does, in fact, throw much light. There is a lack of method and of chronological order, and too great an infusion of mere didactical and hortatory writing, as is common with clergymen; and more prominence is given to the commonplace remarks or the excellent character of Hon. A. B., Rev. C. D., E. F., Esq., &c., than the subject seems to require. But this fault is inseparable from a work prepared as this has been, and, like the other defects of which we have spoken, indicates an amiable spirit in the author. He deserves thanks for what he has done, both as chaplain and as author.

10.—*Familiar Quotations, being an Attempt to trace to their Source Passages and Phrases in Common Use.* By JOHN BARTLETT. 5th Edition. Boston: Little, Brown, & Co. 1868. 12mo. pp. xii., 778.

WE are glad to see that the appreciation of Mr. Bartlett's taste and diligence has forced him pleasantly to a fifth edition, for with every revisal his collection gains in completeness and accuracy. This is a kind of work which to do well demands time and pains, nor has the author stinted either. The very *index* has more honest labor in it than is shown by many volumes of more pretension; and, though the substance of the book be in one sense second-hand, yet the plan of it is original, and the execution demanded research and judgment. Mr. Bartlett's object has not been to supply us with ready-made learning